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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1 (currently amended). A method of processing a client request for a file, comprising:

retrieving transmitting a first fragment of the file that is stored in a first tier from volatile storage of a server storage to the client and transmitting the first fragment to the client;

retrieving a subsequent fragment of the file from a lower tier of disk storage of the server while the first fragment is transmitting; and

after transmission of the first fragment completes, transmitting the subsequent fragment to the client.

2-5 (canceled.)

6 (currently amended). The method of claim 1, further comprising, responsive to determining that a the first fragment of the requested file is not valid in the first tier of volatile storage, retrieving the first fragment from a lower tier of the disk storage and storing the first fragment in the first tier volatile storage.

7 (currently amended). The method of claim 6, further comprising determining limiting a size for the first fragment based upon the transmission window of a size and number of active packets permitted by a TCP/IP connection between the server and client.

8 (currently amended). The method of claim 7, wherein the first fragment size is less than or equal to the a maximum number of active packets permitted by the connection multiplied by a maximum packet size permitted by the transmission window of the server connection.

9. (canceled.)

10 (currently amended). A server device for processing a client request for a file, comprising:

a processor;

a system memory accessible to the processor and configured with instructions suitable for execution by the processor;

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server code means for transmitting a first fragment of the file that is stored in a first tier of server volatile storage of the server device to the client;

server code means for retrieving a subsequent fragment of the file from a lower tier disk storage of storage the server device while the first fragment is transmitting; and

server code means for transmitting the subsequent fragment to the client after transmission of the first fragment completes.

11-14 (canceled).

15 (currently amended). The server device of claim 10, further comprising, code means for retrieving the first fragment from a lower tier of storage the disk storage and storing the first fragment in the first tier the volatile storage responsive to determining that a valid copy of the first fragment of the requested file is not valid stored in the first tier of volatile storage.

16 (currently amended). The server device of claim 15, further comprising code means for determining limiting a size for the first fragment based upon the transmission window of a size and number of active packets permitted by a TCP/IP connection between the server and client.

17 (currently amended). The server device of claim 16, wherein the first fragment size is less than or equal to the a maximum number of active packets permitted by the connection multiplied by a maximum packet size permitted by the transmission window of the server connection.

18 (canceled).

19 (currently amended). A computer program product residing on a computer readable medium for enabling a server device to process a client requests request for a file, comprising:

server code means for <u>retrieving</u> transmitting a first fragment of the file that is stored in a first tier from volatile storage of a server storage to the client and transmitting the first fragment to the client;

server code means for retrieving a subsequent fragment of the file from a lower tier of disk storage of the server while the first fragment is transmitting; and

server code means for transmitting the subsequent fragment to the client after transmission of the first fragment completes.

20-23 (canceled).

24 (currently amended). The computer program product of claim 19, further comprising, code means for retrieving the first fragment from a lower tier of the disk storage and storing the first

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fragment in the first tier the volatile storage responsive to determining that a valid copy of the first fragment of the requested file is not valid stored in the first tier of storage.

25 (currently amended). The computer program product of claim 24, further comprising code means for determining limiting a size for the first fragment based upon the transmission window of a size and number of active packets permitted by a TCP/IP connection between the server and client.

26 (currently amended). The computer program product of claim 25, wherein the first fragment size is less than or equal to the a maximum number of active packets permitted by the connection multiplied by a maximum packet size permitted by the transmission window of the server connection.